

The Alexandria Gazette

TUESDAY EVE'G, SEPTEMBER 2, 1862.

LOCAL.—There was another fine rain, yesterday evening, accompanied with much lightning and thunder.—We mentioned a few days ago, the number of vessels in this port; their "thick and serried ranks" increase and extend from above the coal wharves to the Bluff, and include all classes, from the largest ocean steamers to small schooners and canal boats.—Great improvement in the order of the town has been observed within the last few days, but there are some cases of bad conduct in the suburbs which ought to be checked.—Herr & Welsh, formerly of Harper's Ferry, having purchased the flour mill known as "Columbia Mills," in Georgetown, D. C., and owned for many years by Thomas Dodge & Co., are giving it a complete overhauling.—During the five days ending Friday evening 28th ult., ninety-four boats arrived at Georgetown by canal: of this number eighty-three were laden with coal; the remainder had, principally, flour and grain; the tolls for the five days amounted to something over three thousand.—Several new buildings are being erected in Georgetown.—Several U. S. gunboats came up yesterday and this morning.—The wind to-day, was from the Northwest, and the weather quite cool.—We are requested to make a suggestion as to procuring, in time, a supply of wood for fuel the coming winter—and that at as cheap rates and as early as possible; to assist in this would be doing a great service to the community.—Rev. E. P. Walton, son of the late Rev. W. C. Walton, chaplain of the 5th Virginia regiment, was taken prisoner, in one of the late battles.—Mr. Elliott, at Yeates' Garden, yesterday afternoon, was assaulted by two or three men—(soldiers, or disguised in soldiers' clothes,) and severely beaten.

BRIG. GEN. I. I. STEVENS KILLED.—Brig. Gen. I. I. Stevens, of the Federal army, was killed in an engagement yesterday, and his body brought to this city this morning, where it will be embalmed by Dr. Holmes, at Benj. Wheatley's, on Alfred street. Gen. S. was shot through the head.

TORN DOWN.—A frame shanty, near the canal basin which has been used for some time as a liquor shop was yesterday afternoon torn down by some members of one of the Massachusetts regiments.

CONFEDERATE PRISONERS.—Thirty-eight Confederate prisoners, taken in the recent engagements near Bull Run were brought to this city this afternoon.

EMBALMED.—The body of Brig. Gen. Taylor, has been embalmed, and is to be sent to his late home in New Jersey.

As the cars conveying the nurses to the battle field on Saturday evening were waiting at Alexandria, a young man on the top of the cars either jumped or fell off, striking with his neck upon a rail. When taken up, his face was found to be badly cut. He died shortly after, having, it is supposed, broken his neck.

Gen. Banks, in the execution of the order to that end, burned on Sunday 147 railroad cars and five locomotives.

Saturday's Fight.

The Washington Star, of last evening, has the following account of Saturday's engagement:

Up to 1 o'clock on Saturday the fighting was so light that it was thought there would not be any serious action for the day. A cavalry reconnoissance of four regiments, including the Michigan Cavalry, sent from the left to ascertain if the enemy were attempting a flank movement, discovered nothing to indicate their presence; but on returning to the left, and after taking position, the enemy suddenly made their appearance in immense numbers in a wood in front, and so near that their faces could be distinguished.

At the same point a battery was suddenly wheeled into position and fired at the cavalry. The first shell struck in front of the cavalry, and ricocheted high over to a field in their rear. The second shell burst over their heads, when they fell back to the cover of a hill.—Stuart's cavalry presently appeared in large force, coming on a charge. The Confederate cavalymen were armed with costly English shot guns, which they held at the breast fired (both barrels at once) as they approached on the charge.

Our cavalymen repelled the charge with their sabres, and the enemy fell back to the shelter of the woods, rallied superbly and returned again to the charge, and were again repelled. The enemy's infantry now opened upon our cavalry, compelling it to retreat.—About the same time our left wing was repulsed, and fell back with considerable loss.

Two lines of pickets effectually prevented the stragglers from moving off, and the centre and right wing stood so firmly as to prevent the enemy from gaining any substantial fruits from their first successes.

Our soldiers who had been in the thickest of the fight, on the conclusion of the action fell down on the ground, too much exhausted to seek shelter or food, and slept where they were through the night, despite the falling rain.

Their hardships were increased by the want of water, as every spring and well was naturally drained to supply such a host, and many cheerfully paid twenty-five cents for a canteen full. Others drank the muddy water from the sloughs where thousands of horses had passed through.

The fact that not only Jackson, but Longstreet and Ewell, got through Thoroughfare Gap successfully, has caused some surprise, as it is stated that a regiment of men can hold the Gap against all comers, as it is narrow, and the road through it one in which it would be impossible for the enemy to unlimber a gun at the defensible points.

It is stated that Longstreet's advance, a single regiment of sharpshooters, was driven back (shelled) by a detachment sent out for that purpose; but that from some cause this force of ours was subsequently withdrawn, and the gap left open for Longstreet to pass through unchallenged.

Prisoners state that Gen. Lee was personally in command on Friday and Saturday.

A gentleman who left Fairfax Court-House yesterday evening at half-past six o'clock says that at that time reinforcements and ammunition were pouring into the Federal lines.

A SOULLESS MAN.—An Iowa orator wishing to describe his opponent as a soulless man said:—"I have heard that some persons hold the opinion that just at the precise moment after one human being dies another is born, and the soul enters and animates the new born babe. Now, I have made particular and extensive inquiries concerning my opponent, and I find that for some hours before he drew breath nobody died. Fellow-citizens, I will leave you to draw your own inferences."

Latest from the Seat of War.

[From the Associated Press.]

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1.—Dispatches received from Fairfax Court House, about seven miles from Centreville, state that no firing has been heard up to twelve o'clock to-day.

General Banks' forces were heard from last night in a favorable position for joining Gen. Pope's army.

All the wounded have been removed from the battle field of Thursday and Friday. The cars came in this morning from the first named field, bringing many wounded—some to Alexandria and others to Washington. The most devoted attention is being paid to this description of soldiers.

The Ladies' Soldiers' Relief Society of Washington were engaged all day, yesterday, most of the night and again to-day, in preparing lint and bandages, making compresses, &c.

Our informant, when passing through Centreville, saw thousands of stragglers at that place—men of different regiments, all mixed up, and exhibiting a scene of disorganization. An officer remarked that these men would "all be right the next day, after they had recovered from their fatigue," and so it proved. Our informant, while returning to the city this morning early, saw them all marching back, properly companioned, to their respective regiments. They appeared to be cheerful and anxious to rejoin their comrades.

When the ambulances in large numbers reached the battle field yesterday, to bring away the wounded, a stampede commenced among them, the drivers having turned the heads of their horses towards the road leading to Washington, and commenced a hasty retreat with their empty vehicles. Some frightened driver imagined that Stuart's cavalry was coming up, and accordingly gave the alarm.

The panic spread almost with the speed of electricity, and doubtless would have been prolific of serious consequences had not the guards on the road rushed forth with pointed guns and threatened to shoot the drivers unless they returned to the field. This conduct on the part of the guard had the desired effect. After a while the ambulances again reached the field, and performed their appropriate duty in bringing away the wounded.

There seems to be no doubt that the enemy's pickets were hovering around the persons engaged in their humane work on the field, but up to an early hour this morning they had not been interrupted.

Ambulances are constantly arriving here with the wounded, and a small proportion of sick.

Evacuation of Fredericksburg.

We learn direct from Fredericksburg, that that city has been evacuated by the Federal troops. The railroad depot, Scott's foundry, the railroad bridge, (a structure ninety feet high and one one hundred and sixty feet long,) a wire bridge, and a Government bakery at Falmouth, were all blown up. Falmouth station was burned with many thousand rations, and the railroad track was also torn up for some two or three miles. A large number of Union people left with the troops. A large number of contrabands also followed on the track of Gen. Burnside's army. Our informant says they have had arrivals at Fredericksburg from Richmond for four days in succession before our forces left, and they all agree in saying that there are no Confederate troops in Richmond, nor on the road between there and Fredericksburg, which shows conclusively that the whole Confederate army are at Manassas. Gen. Burnside, with his forces, is now at Aquia Creek, and is to leave for Alexandria in a short time. We cannot note his movements further.—*Washington National Republican.*